

The Director of Central Intelligence  
Washington, D.C. 20505

National Intelligence Council

11 March 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: (addressees below)

FROM: Charles E. Allen  
National Intelligence Officer for Warning

SUBJECT: NOIWON Modernization

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1. The National Security Council's Crisis Management Working Group (CMWG) is reviewing the need to modernize the NOIWON system, which is used extensively by operations centers and the White House Situation Room in crisis circumstances. The NOIWON system is based on old technology and questions have been raised about its efficiency in extremis. The Intelligence Community's Information Handling Committee (IHC) developed a draft proposal in 1983 to upgrade this system, but the improvements suggested in that proposal were never funded. Enclosed is a copy of the IHC's draft statement of requirements and equipment developed in the 1983 study.

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2. The Chairman of the CMWG has requested that I survey the NOIWON community to determine whether the user requirements for an upgraded system reflected in the 1983 IHC study still pertain. Accordingly, I would appreciate receiving your view on the functional requirements and priorities for an upgraded NOIWON system. Ranking and comments on issues such as clarity, reliability, speed of activation, modes (voice only, facsimile, video, etc.), simplicity, record capability, and expandability are requested.

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3. This effort is being undertaken in close collaboration with the Chairman of the IHC which--once the user requirements are validated--will develop detailed technical requirements and implementation strategies.

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4. To meet the CMWG requirements, I will need your comments in writing by 30 March 1988. If needed, I will convene a brief meeting of Community NOIWON managers the first week of April in order to develop a consolidated submission to the CMWG. I look forward to receiving your response.

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Charles E. Allen

Attachment:  
1983 Draft Requirements

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ADDRESSEES:

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Director, Executive Secretariat Operations Center  
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Chief, Operations Center, CIA

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Chief, SIGINT Operations, NSA

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Lt. Col. Edward N. Wright  
Special Assistant to the Attorney General  
for National Security Affairs  
Department of Justice

Mr. Paul J. Lebras  
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Deputy Director for JCS Support, DIA

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Director of Naval Intelligence

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Director of Intelligence  
US Marine Corps

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Chairman, Information Handling Committee  
Intelligence Community Staff

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## **Conference Arrangement**

- 1. Background**
- 2. Requirements**
- 3. Assumptions**
- 4. Equipments**
- 5. Concept of Operations**
  - a. Individual Conference Location Facilities**
  - b. Conference Director Location facilities**
  - c. Establishing a Conference**
  - d. Terminating a Conference**
- 6. Conference Bridges**
- 7. Signaling and Supervision**
- 8. Development Schedule**
- 9. Cost Estimates**

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